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**Non-governmental organizations**

## Identical letters dated 26 May 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Economic and Social Council

On instructions from my Government, my country's mission would like to draw your attention to the following:

At its current resumed session, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations is considering the application of the Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Association for consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

In July 2015, my country's mission submitted to the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities the following information confirming that this so-called charitable association provides support and financing to terrorism:

> The Sheikh Eid Association of Qatar has been transferring funds to armed terrorist groups in Syria, including the terrorist organizations Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Nusrah Front. The Association's stated aim is to assist displaced Syrian children and youths living in neighbouring States, and to provide financing to build a generation educated according to curricula designed by the funding providers.
>
> The Association's operations in Turkey are managed by a Qatari national, Sheikh Abbad al-Misnad (Abu Ahmad). In Jordan, he is assisted by the Qatari national Khayrat Hamad al-'Ali. In early March 2015, the Association sent $10 million for the terrorist Nusrah Front in the countryside of Idlib governorate. It also sent $10 million for the leadership of ISIL in the countryside of Aleppo governorate. The money was received by the terrorist Muhammad Abdulwahid Arran.

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During the same month, the terrorist Umar Husayn As'ad al-Mukahhal received $5 million from the Association. The sum was sent with the terrorist Muhammad Jamal al-Dakhil from the A'zaz area. Al-Mukahhal announced the news to the terrorists who were with him on 12 May 2015. He read out a letter stating that they should withdraw from Bi'r al-Qasab and surrounding areas and go to Raqqah governorate, where they would relieve other terrorist groups that had deployed to Tadmur (Palmyra).

Under the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, a consultative relationship between the United Nations and a non-governmental organization may not be granted to organizations involved in criminal activity. Since the Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Association supports and finances terrorism under the guise of charitable work, which is a violation of United Nations counter-terrorism resolutions, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic strenuously objects to granting it consultative status, and calls on you to take immediate measures to prevent that.

I should be grateful if this letter could be issued as a document of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative